

not succumb to a vote to increase the debt limit if we are not compensated with significant spending cuts.

As our Speaker JOHN BOEHNER has said, "It's true that allowing America to default would be irresponsible, but it would be more irresponsible to raise the debt ceiling without simultaneously taking dramatic steps to reduce spending and reform the budget process" itself. And it can be done.

We can look back to understand what will happen next. Several years back, Russia had a real default, yet within 2 or 3 years they reached all-time low interest rates. Earlier this year, the House passed a budget resolution for fiscal year 2012 which set non-security discretionary spending to below 2008 funding levels. It calls upon repealing the costly and burdensome health care law and envisions reforming some entitlement programs to contain costs and pay down the national debt.

My colleagues across the aisle have criticized portions of this legislation. But the question is asked, where is their alternative? There can be no debate if the other side cannot produce a logical document that seriously sets out to solve our Nation's crisis, the real crisis. Just like the solution to a drug addiction is not to increase one's intake, the solution to our Nation's spending addiction is not to increase one's capacity to continue to accumulate debt.

The time is now for real reform. Only after we have curbed the trillions of dollars of debt that we continue to pile up can we then consider raising the debt limit.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day. We pause now in Your presence and acknowledge our dependence on You.

We ask Your blessing upon the men and women of this, the people's House. Keep them aware of Your presence as they face the tasks of this day that no burden be too heavy, no duty too difficult, and no work too wearisome.

Help them, and indeed help us all, to obey Your law, to do Your will, and to walk in Your way. Grant that they

might be good in thought, gracious in word, generous in deed, and great in spirit.

Make this a glorious day in which all are glad to be alive, eager to work, and ready to serve You, our great Nation, and all our fellow brothers and sisters. May all that is done this day be done for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SIREs led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RAISING THE DEBT CEILING MEANS SERIOUS CHANGES

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, over 750 days have passed since the Senate passed a budget. Now, liberals in Congress are leading the charge to increase the current debt limit. The Federal Government officially reached its \$14.3 trillion debt limit in May. America's finances are now borrow, tax, and spend—killing jobs.

Congress should not raise the debt limit without making serious changes in the way the Federal Government spends money. Recklessly raising the debt ceiling without exercising fiscal restraint will lead to a lower international credit rating, higher borrowing costs, and an increase in the cost of the Nation's imports.

This is a threat to senior citizens by risking the value of the dollar. It's a threat to young people, saddling them with overwhelming debt.

Washington must change its way, which is now killing jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

A TRIBUTE TO DENISON DOVER GARRETT

(Mr. BUTTERFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Denison Dover Garrett, a towering giant who has passed away at the age of 97. A lifelong resident of Greenville, North Carolina, we affectionately referred to Mr. Garrett by his initials, D.D.

D.D. Garrett was a man of great courage who led by example. He worked tirelessly to ensure that the African American community had a voice in public policy. Through his work in the AME Zion Church and the Pitt County Branch of the NAACP, D.D. constantly exposed injustice. He insisted that the American Dream must be a reality to every American regardless of their station in life.

As the first African American county commissioner, D.D. led the way in African American political participation in his community. As the founder of a substantial insurance and real estate firm, D.D. was a successful businessman and mentor to many.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this great life. We extend condolences to his wife, Mrs. Clotea Williams Garrett; their sons, D.D., Jr., and Michael; and the entire Greenville community.

Greenville, North Carolina, is a better place to live and work because of the enormous contribution of Denison D. Garrett.

CONGRATULATING THE MARIETTA COLLEGE BASEBALL TEAM

(Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the economy, the national debt, high gas prices, and the need for jobs, those are still the important issues to the people in my district in southeastern Ohio; but today, I rise to congratulate the Marietta College baseball team for winning their record fifth Division III College World Series title yesterday. Our people have something to cheer about.

The Pioneers, led by coach Brian Brewer, won the deciding game in convincing fashion with an 18-5 victory over Chapman University.

The 'Etta Express was led defensively by a strong pitching performance from All-American honorable mention pitcher Austin Blaski. Blaski pitched a nearly perfect six innings, allowing only two hits and one earned run.

On the offensive side, the Pioneers were led by right-fielder Aaron Hopper, who had four hits, four RBIs, and a stolen base. All-American senior center fielder John Snyder added three hits, two runs scored, and an RBI to end his college career.

The Pioneers finished the season with an amazing record of 47 wins and

4 losses on their way to a record fifth national title.

Congratulations to the 'Etta Express.

RECOGNIZING MIKE CONNOLLY

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mike Connolly, an educator at the Charles E. Shea Senior High School in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, for his leadership in launching the Voters in the Classroom initiative. Voters in the Classroom is a statewide mock election initiative involving nearly 25 percent of public high schools across the State of Rhode Island.

Mr. Connolly's Voters in the Classroom initiative is an effective classroom-based program helping to prepare students to be engaged public citizens. Students in the Voters in the Classroom program participate in mock statewide referendums on important topics, establish voting procedures through classroom discussions and assemblies, and staff polling places at their schools.

I recently visited the students and educators at Shea High School and have seen firsthand the importance of this program. Civic education programs like this are key to the success of our democracy because they increase the likelihood that young people will engage in the election process when they become of age.

I congratulate Mike Connolly on this achievement and thank him for his forward-thinking commitment to Rhode Island's students and the preservation of our democracy.

DEBT LIMIT VOTE

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, you know, since this President has taken office, we have had the failed stimulus, omnibus, TARP II, Government Motors, the government takeover of health care. Well, the buck stops here. Literally, House Republicans refuse to give the spender-in-chief a blank check to pay for his reckless ways.

If the President even wants to think about moving forward with the debt limit increase, he needs to know that Americans want Congress to drastically cut spending.

Across the Nation, people have cut back and stretched their hard-earned dollars in order to make it through these tough times. The government must do the same. We're facing a debt crisis because Washington spends too much and wastes too much.

Raising the debt limit without a deep spending cut amounts to a Barack Obama big-government bailout. Enough is enough. Stop the Obama bailout now.

□ 1210

VETERANS' UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, before I comment on why I am standing next to the brave and the true of our United States military, let me give a message to Syria and express my outrage over the heinous killing of a 13-year-old boy. President Assad should be held accountable now. And the United Nations needs to voice its opposition. As the Secretary of State has indicated, we need to be standing alongside those seeking freedom in Syria.

And to our allies in Bahrain, where our fleet of Navy personnel are, what a disgrace that they have imploded and blown up mosques because they disagree with their particular faith. This is the Arab Spring, but it will end in devastation if we don't stand for truth and human rights and compassion.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think it is important, as I stand next to the brave men and women, some who have fallen, and those who now still fight, to ask my Republican friends do you understand that there is a 10 percent unemployment among those who are coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan? Yes, troops who are fighting for us and fighting on our behalf. Yet it has been 21 weeks and the Republicans have no jobs agenda. We need jobs. Create jobs! If you believe in these troops, build jobs for the American people.

UNFAITHFUL ALLY?

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the more we learn about Pakistan, the more they sound like the Benedict Arnold nation in the list of countries we call allies. First, it was Osama bin Laden, the world's number one outlaw, living comfortably in a mansion in Pakistan for years, but Pakistan claims no knowledge of that.

Now, a reporter in Pakistan, Syed Saleem Shahzad, has been murdered. He has been critical of the Pakistani Government. He reported that the naval base in Karachi that was attacked was done so by al Qaeda members of the Navy of Pakistan. Human Rights Watch says Shahzad was assassinated by members of the Pakistan intelligence agency, who previously had threatened him.

Meanwhile, Pakistan is chumming up to the Chinese. Sounds like Pakistan is playing both sides in the war on terror. Seven in 10 Americans believe we need to stop or decrease foreign aid to Pakistan. We should stop foreign aid to Pakistan until we know whose side they're on. We don't need to pay them to be unfaithful. They will do it for free.

And that's just the way it is.

SENIOR SAFETY NET

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, after a lifetime of service to their families and our Nation, America's seniors deserve the security of a basic safety net like Medicare and Social Security. Sadly, the Republican budget that the House approved in April puts fundamental programs at risk. The Republican budget will end guaranteed Medicare coverage for seniors, I state, end guaranteed Medicare coverage for seniors; cut benefits and turn control over to the insurance industry; and double out-of-pocket costs for seniors over the next decade.

From day one, the Republican plan to end Medicare will toss 4 million seniors into the prescription drug doughnut hole. And from day one, seniors across the Nation will have their copays reinstated for their annual wellness visit.

Seniors in my district understand that we must lower the deficit, but it should not be on the backs of the poor or the disadvantaged. But they also know that it is wrong to end Medicare so we can extend the tax breaks for the millionaires and billionaires. Let's work together on a real budget and lower the deficit.

ENDEAVOUR AND SENATOBIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

(Mr. NUNNELEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, at 2:35 a.m., *Endeavor* landed safely following its final trip into space. As *Endeavor* retires after its 25th mission, it lives on with a unique legacy: the only space shuttle named by children.

In 1989, Senatobia, Mississippi, Middle School was the national winner in a competition to name a new spacecraft. Their mission? To come up with a name that captured the spirit of America's mission in space.

On May 16, two decades later, as *Endeavor* launched its final mission, those elementary children are now adults, and the spirit and excitement of that final flight was felt most in Senatobia, Mississippi. As the Senatobia-1, a balloon built and flown by students, was launched, it was filled with signatures wishing Congresswoman GIFFORDS a speedy recovery and captured beautiful images of their beloved spaceship as it took to the skies for one last time.

ATTEMPTS TO DISTRACT ATTENTION FROM MEDICARE PLAN

(Mr. SIRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, last night we saw once again a great display of political theater. My friends across the aisle scheduled a vote on raising the